

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No. 11. REC

Special Branch

REPORT

Date January 21, 1937.

Subject: The "Sun Huo Wan Pao" ("Life Evening News")

Made by _____ and _____ Forwarded by _____ C.S.D.I. Room _____

The "Sun Huo Wan Pao" ("Life Evening News" 生活晚报),

Lane 228, Burkill Road, is published and edited by Woo Hung Hwe (吳晨花), assisted by Ki Zau Tseng (吉兆俊), formerly a member of the editorial staff of the defunct "Chen Pao" ("Shanghai Morning Post" 晨報), and Tsang Sin Ts (張恂子), a mosquito paper journalist.

Mr. Albert A. Favacho, alleged publisher of the "Sun Huo Wan Pao", resides together with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G.H. Favacho, at No. 260 North Szechuen Road. He received his education in the Assumption College, Bangkok, Siam. From 1917 to 1924 he worked for the Iacu Kung Mow Cotton Mill, Yangtzepoo Road. When the mill closed down, he proceeded to Bangkok and returned to Shanghai sometime later and in 1931 joined the firm of T.K. Chang and Co., manufacturers of electric bulbs. In consequence of the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese hostilities in January 1932, his services were dispensed with. Recently he was introduced to one H.H. Woo who, he believed, was a well known Chinese newspaperman. An arrangement was reached whereby Mr. A.A. Favacho would lend his name to be used as publisher of a Chinese newspaper to be known as the "Sun Huo Wan Pao" for a consideration of \$50 a month. His duties were to take care of the outside business of the paper; he was not to interfere in any fashion whatever with the policy of the paper. Mr. Favacho says that an agreement was drawn up and an application for the registration of the paper forwarded to the Portuguese Consulate, 1880 Rue Lafayette. Prior to registration being granted, the Consulate stipulated that articles of a political nature affecting China or Portugal must not be published. Mr. Favacho having given the necessary assurance, the registration

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was effected and a certificate issued. With the issuance of this certificate the paper is practically immune from interference by the Chinese Censorship Bureau and any person having a complaint to make against the journal would have to make it against Yavacho, as publisher, in the Portuguese Consulate.

According to Mr. Yavacho, the capital of the paper is \$5,000. He admits that he has never had any experience of Chinese newspaper work. His object in entering into a working agreement with the man Woo was simply to help him secure and publish plenty of news.

Mr. Braga, Chancellor of the Portuguese Consulate, upon being interviewed, said that registration was granted on the following understanding :-

1. That the object of the registration was to enable the newspaper to publish news ahead of other journals because foreign registration would render the paper immune from censorship.
2. That nothing of a political nature concerning China or Portugal or any other country would appear in the new paper.

On January 18, representations were made by Mr. Tong, Secretary to Mayor Wu Teh Chen, and later by a representative of the French Police requesting the cancellation of the registration on the ground that M.H. Woo was in the habit of publishing articles derogatory to the Nanking Government and its officials. As the Portuguese Authorities object to their citizens meddling in the political affairs of China or of any other country, Mr. Yavacho was called to the Consulate and ordered by Mr. Braga, Chancellor, to discontinue publication of

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once and to surrender the registration certificate. This document was returned to the Portuguese Consulate on January 20, 1937.

Mr. Braga also mentioned that his attention had been drawn to an objectionable article concerning a General Liu which appeared in the issue of January 18.

An examination of the paper was made by S.5 and an article was found dealing with General Liu Chung Hwa, Chairman of the Anhwei Provincial Government, in an unfavourable light. A curious thing about the article is that the heading read, "General Liu Shih of Honan Provincial Government", obviously a mistake. A translation of this article is appended herewith.

The "Sun Huo Wan Pao" appeared as usual on January 19 but the name of Mr. Pavacho, the publisher, and the Portuguese registration, etc. had been deleted.

Woo Fung Hwo (吳震花), publisher and editor of the "Sun Huo Wan Pao", is notorious for his blackmailing activities. After severing his connection with the "Holmes" (福尔摩斯), a mosquito newspaper, he started the "Great Daily News" (大日報) in 1935.

On January 15, 1936, he was sentenced by the Shanghai Special District Court to a fine of \$30, suspended for two years, for publishing an indecent article in his paper on December 14, 1935.

On August 25, 1936, he was fined \$200 and his paper was ordered to be suspended for publishing slanderous articles against local educational circles. He appealed to the Second Branch of the Kiangsu High Court and on October 12 the High Court quashed the original sentences passed by the Court of First

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Instance and imposed on him a fine of \$50 only. It was really an attempt to extort money from a certain school, whose principal is a member of the executive committee of the local Tangpu Headquarters. When, instead of receiving hush-money he sustained a heavy loss, he decided to publish the "Sun Huo Wan Pao" under foreign protection. He is using the characters "Sun Huo" ("Life") in the name of his paper because newspaper readers, especially students, are fond of subscribing for periodicals published by educationalists such as Chow Tao Feng (邵韜風), Doo Chung Yuan (杜重遠) and Ching Chung Hwa (金仲華) and bearing such names as "Life Weekly" (生活), "New Life Weekly" (新生命), "Mass Livelihood weekly" (大眾生活), "Perpetual Life Weekly" (永生), etc.

It is reported that Mr. Wong Pei Yuen (王培源), a lawyer, is helping Woo Hung Hwo in publishing the "Sun Huo Wan Pao".

According to Mr. Chen Ko Zung, Chief of the local Newspaper Censorship Bureau, Woo Hung Hwo has neither submitted a petition to the Shanghai City Government applying for registration nor has he forwarded to this Bureau proof of reading matter for censoring.

Continuing, Mr. Chen stated that he sent a letter to the management of the "National Herald" requesting them to discontinue the printing of the "Sun Huo Wan Pao" but his request was disregarded. He intends to ask the Shanghai City Government to communicate with the Shanghai First Special District Court to issue instructions ordering the suppression of this publication.

D. C. (Special Branch)

G. D. I.